

Listing of Claims:

1. (original) A cellular telephone device, comprising:

a radio unit for transmitting over a cellular telephone network, the cellular telephone network capable of both in-band communication and out-of-band communication;

a messaging unit operatively coupled to the radio unit to determine when a user of the cellular telephone device desires to record a cellular telephone conversation and, when the user of the cellular telephone device desires to record a cellular telephone conversation, to transmit a record enable signal via the radio unit using the out-of-band communication.

2. (original) A cellular telephone device according to claim 1,

wherein the in-band communication is a traffic channel; and wherein the out-of-band communication is a signaling channel.

3. (original) A cellular telephone device according to claim 2, wherein the in-band communication is a voice channel.

4. (original) A cellular telephone device according to claim 2, wherein the out-of-band communication is a short message data channel.

5. (original) A cellular telephone device according to claim 2, wherein the out-of-band communication is sent using an Internet protocol.

6. (original) A cellular telephone device according to claim 2, wherein the out-of-band communication is a cellular data channel.

7. (original) A cellular telephone device according to claim 1,
wherein the record enable signal comprises a record start signal and a record stop signal;
wherein the messaging unit is operatively coupled to the radio unit to transmit the record start signal via the radio unit using the out-of-band communication when the user of the cellular telephone device desires to start recording the cellular telephone conversation; and

wherein the messaging unit is operatively coupled to the radio unit to transmit the record stop signal via the radio unit using the out-of-band communication when the user of the cellular telephone device desires to stop recording the cellular telephone conversation.

8. (original) Communications equipment capable of communicating with a remote cellular telephone device and of recording telephone conversations therewith, the communications equipment comprising:

a cellular base station for receiving a cellular telephone conversation with a remote cellular telephone device on an in-band channel and for receiving a record enable signal from the remote cellular telephone device on an out-of-band channel; and

a recorder operatively coupled to the cellular base station to receive the telephone conversation on the traffic channel and record the conversation upon the record enable signal.

9. (original) Communications equipment according to claim 8, further comprising a media gateway operatively coupling the cellular base station to the public switched telephone network to transport telephone communications between the remote cellular telephone device and a remote public switched telephone device.

10. (original) Communications equipment according to claim 8, wherein the in-band communication is a voice channel; and wherein the out-of-band communication includes a signaling channel to carry the record enable signal.

11. (original) Communications equipment according to claim 8, wherein the in-band communication is a voice channel.

12. (original) Communications equipment according to claim 10, wherein the out-of-band communication is a short message data channel.

13. (original) Communications equipment according to claim 12, wherein the short message data channel uses SS7 signaling.

14. (original) Communications equipment according to claim 10, wherein the out-of-band communication is sent using an Internet protocol.

15. (original) Communications equipment according to claim 10, wherein the out-of-band communication is a cellular data channel.

16. (original) Communications equipment according to claim 8, further comprising a mobile switching center operatively coupled to the cellular base station to fork off a communication signal to the recorder upon receipt of the enable signal.

17. (original) Communications equipment according to claim 16, wherein the mobile switching center forwards the voice signal to the voice recorder using a streaming protocol.

18. (original) Communications equipment according to claim 8,

wherein the record enable signal comprises a record start signal and a record stop signal;
wherein the cellular base station receives the record start signal from the remote cellular telephone device on an out-of-band channel; and

wherein the cellular base station receives the record stop signal from the remote cellular telephone device on an out-of-band channel; and

wherein the voice recorder receives the voice conversation on a voice channel and starts recording the voice conversation upon the record start signal and stops recording the voice conversation upon one of at least either the record stop signal and an end of the voice conversation.

19. (original) Communications equipment according to claim 8, further comprising a media gateway operatively coupled to the cellular base station and the voice recorder to save and provide for future remote retrieval of the recorded conversation.

20. (original) Communications equipment according to claim 19, wherein the media gateway provides for future remote retrieval of the recorded conversation using an interactive menu of at least one of visual and audible menus.

21. (original) Communications equipment according to claim 19, wherein the media gateway forwards the recorded conversation to a distribution location using a standard digital encoded format, stores the conversation as a link on a website and provides the web address to each of the calling parties via at least one of voice message and text message.

22. (original) A method of communicating over a cellular telephone to record voice conversations, the method comprising the steps of:

transporting a cellular telephone conversation between a remote cellular telephone device and a base station on an in-band communication;

transporting a record enable signal from the remote cellular telephone device to the base station on an out-of-band communication; and

recording the telephone conversation upon an enable signal.

23. (original) A method according to claim 22, further comprising the step of transporting telephone communications between the remote cellular telephone and another telephone on a network.

24. (original) A method according to claim 22, wherein the in-band communication includes a voice channel; and wherein the out-of-band communication includes a non-voice channel.

25. (original) A method according to claim 24, wherein the out-of-band communication includes a signaling channel.

26. (original) A method according to claim 24, wherein the out-of-band communication includes a short message data channel.

27. (original) A method according to claim 26, wherein the short message data channel uses SS7 signaling.

28. (original) A method according to claim 24, wherein the out-of-band communication is sent using an Internet protocol.

29. (original) A method according to claim 24, wherein the out-of-band communication is a cellular data channel.

30. (original) A method according to claim 22,

wherein the step of transporting a record enable signal comprises the steps of transporting a record start signal and transporting a record stop signal; and

wherein the step of recording the voice conversation upon an enable signal comprises the steps of starting recording the voice conversation upon the record start signal and stopping recording the voice conversation upon one of at least either the record stop signal and an end of the voice conversation.

31. (original) A method according to claim 22, further comprising the step of saving and providing for future remote retrieval of the recorded conversation.

32. (original) A method according to claim 22, wherein the step of providing for future remote retrieval of the recorded conversation further comprises the step of providing a website address to each of the calling parties via at least one of voice message and text message.